

OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

One of the most interesting of forthcoming concerts is to be given by the Societe des Instruments Anciens at St. James's Hall on the evening of June 15. The quartet who perform under this name are MM. Diemer, Van Waefelghem, Deisart, and Grillet, their respective instruments being the clavichord, viola d'amore, viola da gamba, and viola. These instruments were made in 1720, 1740, and 1763, and the original concert and solo music written for them will be played on Monday week.

When the society first started the repertoire was limited, but since then M. Grillet has made considerable researches in various music libraries with the result that an extended list of compositions has been worked up, consisting of works by Couperin, Corelli, Rameau, Lully, Locatelli, Candel, Dandreu, Bach, Mandet, Martini, Gervaise, Ariosti, Daquin, Boismortier, Frescobaldi, Degrinis, Desmarets, Chedeville, &c., &c., all composers of the 18th century. I am told that the old world charm of the performances given by the quartet is delightful; they have created an enormous sensation in Paris, and throughout France and Switzerland.

The gifted French baritone, M. Maurel, has been giving some charming vocal recitals at the little Bodinier in Paris. The entertainments have extended only a little over an hour, and although the baritone is naturally predominant, M. Maurel has been received with warm and demonstrative applause.

I understand that Mlle. Marie Marchand, daughter of the famous Paris singing teacher, will make her debut some time this month at Queen's Hall, where Mr. Vert has arranged for her to give two vocal recitals. The young lady's gifted mother was a pupil of the veteran Manuel Garcia, and among pupils of her own have been Mesdames Ilma di Murska, Kraus, Gerster, and Melba.

Poor M. Padewski appears to have had a lively time with the autograph hunters on board the boat about to take him from New York. He was literally mobbed by enthusiastic young ladies, some of whom were not satisfied with a single autograph. One blue-eyed damsel had to be taken to frame, one to paste inside the piano to frame, and one to carry with her to her home.

The last Richter concert takes place at St. James's Hall Monday, when Tchaikovsky's overture to "Romeo and Juliet" will be played for the first time at the concert. The final Wagner concert will also be given next week, on Thursday, at Queen's Hall, Herr Felix Mottl conducting.

Madame Calvé does not intend to appear in Paris this summer. The great prima donna will rest in the country until she returns to the United States, excepting, of course, her appearances at Covent Garden. I hear that Madame Calvé has declined the title role in Massenet's new opera, "Cinderella," as she considers she is not physically suited to the part. Would that prima donna were always so sensible!

An explanation has at last been given of the huge brass apparatus fixed on the prompt side of the proscenium at the Covent Garden opera house. It turns out to be a piano, kept by Mr. Collins, the stage manager, and in which he is preserving all the best performances of the present season.

It is said that pianoforte playing is conducive to abundant locks of air, and next to the piano the violin ranks in value on the thatching of its votaries. We shall have to consult the musical instrument catalogues to see whose pianos or violins are the most recommended for producing "a good head of hair."

Over 21,000fr. are already subscribed towards the fund which is being raised for the purpose of erecting a monument to the late Madame Miolan-Carvalho.

I am sure that even an indifferent concert, when given for such an excellent institution as the N.S.P.C.C., would receive warm support, so there is no doubt that the grand concert which Mr. Mayer is giving in aid of that very deserving charity ought to result in a goodly sum being obtained. The popular musical artist has engaged such eminent artists as Mlle. Landi, Miss Ada Crossley, Messrs. David Bispham, Philip, Mark Hambourg, John Lemmon, Marie Loevensohn, and Johannes Wolff to appear at the concert, which will take place at St. James's Hall on Thursday afternoon.

Amongst the many beautiful flowers at the funeral of the late Mr. Henry Henry were wreaths from Old Colleague on "The People," "The Staff and Proprietor of the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News," and an exquisite floral wreath from the "Committee of the Blackheath Conservatoire of Music, in memory of their late president."

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

One of the most useful and therefore justly tolerated of our insects is the little beetle popularly known to us as the lady bird. There are many species of this insect, and they mostly feed on plant lice and the eggs of other kinds of more or less injurious insects. It is particularly destructive to the hop, and on this account its presence in a hop garden is much prized by the owner. In America experiments have been attended with great success have been carried out with the different kinds of ladybirds. When plague of insects upon which they feed has occurred, and the indigenous species have been unable to cope with them, others have been introduced from foreign lands with very beneficial results. A case in point is that of the cottony cushion scale, whose ravages in California a few years ago began to assume great proportions, being almost completely exterminated by a species of lady-bird brought from Australia.

The why and the wherefore of this toleration of the lady-bird is not quite understood by many of the country folk, and to tell them that because it feeds upon injurious insects is the reason would in many cases be repudiated; rather would they believe that it is preserved on account of the

weather, which if it is killed would become wet. These beetles seem to be favourites all over the world, and in most places there is superstition about them. Sometimes they forebode good luck, sometimes they are connected with fine weather, and sometimes they foretell, according to the number of their spots, good or bad seasons for the farmer, and it is thought when a young girl catches one of these insects and lets it fly, her sweetheart will come from the direction it takes, and so on.

One would not suppose that ants would make a very savoury dish; some of the natives of India, however, use the red species as food, and seem to think a great deal of them. The insects build their nests of leaves in trees or bushes, and these the Indians take down and pound together the ants and their eggs, and then make them into curry. Another extraordinary use that is made of these creatures is to use them for the cure of colds in the head. In this case both the nest and the ants are rubbed together between the palms of the hands into a powder and then taken as snuff. The scent is said to somewhat resemble ammonia.

It is a curious thing that locusts are much relished by nearly all domestic animals. Cows particularly are partial to them, and when swarms of them are on their bodies or in their ears, the cows are grazing not a few of them in sufficient quantities to make any perceptible difference in their numbers. Through this habit it has been ascertained that outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in cattle are due to the locusts. When suffering from this disease animals secrete a frothy mucus which adheres to the grass as they are feeding, and the locusts when visiting an area where the disease is prevalent come in contact with the mucus and carry it on their bodies to other places. These insects are then eaten by the cattle, and the disease is consequently contracted by them.

A writer in the "Transactions of the South African Philosophical Society," just published, gives some interesting particulars concerning this habit of cattle. He says: "Our domestic animals, without exception, greedily devour locusts. For the time being they forsake their ordinary food to feast on them, and with reason, for thus fed they fatten and thrive in a remarkable degree." When the locusts first appear the cattle, as a rule, shun them, but after getting the flavour of them from picking them off the ground at night while grazing, they become addicted to the habit, and prefer that food to any other.

The same writer adds that the disappearance of the locusts is in a great measure caused by a worm parasite in them, and that they die off just before laying their eggs. On examination of many locusts it was found that 2 or 3 of these worms were present inside the bodies of most of them. Perhaps the experiments like those carried out by the Americans, and mentioned in a foregoing paragraph, could be made in this case, and be a means of lessening the numbers and frequency of the invasions of this justly-dreaded pest.

The additions to the Zoological Society's gardens during the week ending June 2, are, as will be seen by the following list, of great interest, and more numerous than usual. They include a caracal, 2 white-backed plovers, 2 green-winged darters, 4 alligators, a Sammering's gazelle, 2 striped hyenas, an Egyptian ichneumon, 2 Libyan vultures, 2 Fennec foxes, 2 Ruppell's gorillas, 4 Egyptian crocodiles, 2 crocodiles, 2 crows, 2 opossums, a blue and yellow macaw, 7 shovellers, 4 golden eyes, 6 common teal, an anomalous snake, an adorned ceratophrys, 2 brown-throated cougars, a yellow snake, a Japanese deer (born in the menagerie), a bonnet snake, 2 crocodiles, a crocodile, a lesser sulphur-crested cockatoo, 2 spiny land emys, a black-spotted toad, and a toad from Penang.

THE ACTOR.

Very little public notice appears to have been taken of the decease of Miss Kate Field. Playgoers with good memories will, however, recollect that she made at least one appearance on the London boards—namely, in her own comedietta called "Extremes Meet," which was produced at St. James's nearly 20 years ago. Miss Field figured therein both as an actress and as a vocalist. Apparently she did not pursue her career in these capacities; anyhow she will be remembered as the biographer both of Fechter and Madame Ristori.

A considerable literary success has been made of late by the author of a tale called "The Courtship of Morrice Buckler."—Mr. A. E. W. Mason. I remember Mr. Mason very well as playing a small rôle at the Avenue Theatre, in the comedy, "The Staff and Proprietor of the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News," and an exquisite floral wreath from the "Committee of the Blackheath Conservatoire of Music, in memory of their late president."

A theatrical contemporary bestows praise upon a young lady who, at a recent matinee, sat with her hat in her lap. She deserves the honourable mention. At an afternoon performance of "Henry IV.," the other day, I sat behind 2 "matinee hats" of abnormal size, and was actually compelled to leave my seat and sit elsewhere, so entirely impossible was it to see anything of the stage from behind those hats. It is to me surprising that "ladies," knowing how much inconvenience these big hats cause, can persist in wearing them in theatres.

Though Mr. Walker's "Mary Pennington, Spinster," has not yet found its way into a London evening bill, it has been purchased for America by Transatlantic actress, The "Stage" points out that this happy result is the outcome of the afternoon performance of the piece at the St. James's, and that it is one more proof of the utility of such matinees. I have always believed in their utility, and hold that they should be encouraged. They are often tiresome to the critics, but the sampling of plays is critics' work, after all.

Another theatrical benefit. This time it is to be tendered to Miss Le Thié, a very deserving lady. Miss

Le Thié is well known as a performer of elderly parts—parts, usually, with a flavour of the sarcastic, though I have seen her play genial old ladies. Among her more recent appearances were those which she made at the Haymarket and Lyceum. She was in "Ravenswood." If I remember rightly, I believe she proposes to give up acting, and devote herself to teaching the art, though I should have thought that there was plenty of stage work for her to do. The benefit is fixed for June 15 at the Criterion.

Make a mental note of July 2, on the evening of that day Mr. William Poel will give a performance at St. George's Hall of the "Dr. Faustus" of Christopher Marlowe. This should be extremely interesting, for the work has been dormant, as a stage play, for 2 centuries or more. It is a sort of link between the old "moralities" and the drama proper, and could not, of course, be represented in present-day playhouses. Mr. Poel will present it on his Elizabethan stage, and very curious, indeed, will the experiment be.

It is pleasant to note that Miss Ellen Terry has purchased from Mr. C. M. Calverly her little picture called "Le Chapeau de Paille." The hero of this is the famous painter, Rubens, the heroine is his mother. The play, which was written about this time last year, has a delightful part for Miss Terry, and I hope she may be induced to appear in it.

OLD IZAAK.

The rivers everywhere have been out of order for want of rain, and the trout anglers, it is feared, must have a disappointing season. In consequence of a few good fish have been taken here and there. At the time of writing, a change of weather seems more than impending, and a better state of things may be reasonably anticipated by the 16th inst., when coarse fishing in most rivers legally commences.

The takes of trout in the Thames during the last few days have been very limited. The most noteworthy was a nice fish of 6lb. 12oz. taken by Mr. Henry Francis, fishing with Geo. Rosewell, at Shepperton. Rosewell has piloted anglers this season to the capture of 11 trout, weighing 65lb. in all, varying in weight from 8lb. 12oz. to one small fish of 1½lb.

I greatly regret to hear of the death of Mr. Edward Clark, of Sunbury, which happened on Sunday last, following an attack of paralysis. He was greatly respected, and did good service in the every possible manner. He was a member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, for whom he held a warrant as assistant river keeper. A letter of thanks to their behalf in connection with the recent nettings in that quarter had been sent him only a day or two before his decease.

The annual dinner of the New Albion Piscatorial Society, which comes off at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, 10th inst., under the chairmanship of Lieut.-col. P. H. Dalbier, M.P., promises to be a great success. Mr. W. H. Grimmett, one of the most energetic members of the society, occupies the vice-chair, and "Old Izaak" and many other friends will be present on the occasion.

Mr. R. E. Booker occupied the chair at the meeting of the Piscatorial Society on Monday last, and there was a full attendance of members. The Kennet, in common with other waters, was reported to be in a bad way, and although the May fly was on only 2 small fish had been taken. Mr. H. B. Brown brought up a trout of 10lb. 10oz. Mr. B. Brown hooked the fish the day before, and finally landing it, recovered the fly with which it had previously succeeded in breaking away.

Mr. A. A. Eldridge announces an open fishing contest (starting from Fulbourn) for Sunday, June 21. A number of money prizes will be competed for, and the weighing-in takes place at the Swan Hotel.

The Central Association meeting held at the Bedford Head, Covent Garden, on Monday last, was largely attended. Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president) occupied the chair, and a large amount of practical work relative to furthering facilities and the like was on the agenda. The evening was notable for the enrolment of no less than 72 new members, and adding considerably over 200 members to the strength of the association, and others are likely to follow.

The clubs now joining were the United Society of Anglers, Railway Tavern, Mare-st., Hackney; the Copenhagen, Copenhagen Tavern, York-rd., N.; the Grange, Earl of Derby, Grange-rd., Bermondsey; Wimbledon Piscatorial, South-western Hotel, Wimbledon; Kingston Piscatorial, Royal Oak, High-st., Teddington; Pelicans, Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich Village; and the Sharp Waltonsians, Rising Sun, Rockingham-st., Newington Causeway S.E. Several of these are of old standing, and others are new.

A pleasing feature of the evening was the presentation of a valuable Malacca cane (suitably mounted and inscribed) to Mr. C. A. Medcalf, which was spontaneously subscribed for by the committee as a special mark of their respect and esteem. Having had the unexpected honour of making the presentation on their behalf, as representative of the Piscatorial Society, I can only endorse their good wishes, and trust the brotherly feeling which prevails among all members of the association may very long continue.

The Hoxton Brothers had a most successful ladies' concert on Tuesday last, over which Mr. Harry Patman, Esq., presided. Mr. R. Gurney (secretary) announced that the Anglers' Benevolent Society, in whose aid the concert was held, had now £500 at its bankers, and was in a most flourishing condition.

The Central "visit" to the Royal Queen's Arms, Bateman-st., Soho, on Thursday next, and numerous announcements are being made of dinners, prize distributions, and the like, to be held early in the angling season.

The annual dinner of the Anchor and Hope Anglers, over which I had the honour of presiding a few days since at the Woolpack, Bermondsey-st., proved a great success. Dr. A. C. Tucker, Mr. W. H. Hamling, Mr. J. Wade, and many other anglers at-

tended; and Mr. Martin, the energetic secretary of the society, has every reason to be congratulated on the result. There was a capital dinner, excellent music, and a big prize-money, and anglers could wish for nothing more.

The Henley-on-Thames Fishery Preservation Association held their annual meeting at 28, Hart-st., Henley-on-Thames, on Wednesday, June 17, at 2.30 p.m. The Henley Society has done good work during the past year, and it is to be hoped the accounts to be submitted on that date will show their efforts to have been appreciated as they deserve to be.

The Epsom Anglers have had a sort of Derby to themselves during the week. Mr. J. A. Buckle, of Epsom, has secured 2 brace of trout from Wales, just now a most appropriate quarter.

GENERAL CHATTER.

It is usually assumed that Chinese women do not suffer either pain or injury from having their poor feet cruelly compressed. That is by no means the case, if a correspondent of mine in the Far East is rightly informed. Having prosecuted searching inquiry into the matter some time, he arrives at the conclusion that the practice causes both suffering, inconvenience, and lasting injury to its victim. Many of them are absolutely incapable of walking more than a few yards; while in after life, mortification sometimes necessitates amputation of the feet. The warning in these facts to those British females who cripple their feet as a sacrifice to senseless fashion by wearing high-heeled, narrow-toed boots or shoes.

I shall watch with great interest the outcome of the experiment set on foot by Lord Winchelsea, and other warm friends of the British farmer, with the object of bringing him into the direct relations with consumers of his produce. For some time past, capacious premises in Long Acre, at the southern end of Endell-st., have been in course of adaptation as a central emporium where all sorts of agricultural and dairy produce of prime quality will be on sale. It is a well-mounted endeavour, but, unless the farmers heartily, loyally, and energetically co-operate, it will not, I fear, achieve more success than has attended previous efforts of a similar character.

It is only natural that there should be much painful searching of consciences among Lord Rosebery's followers on the Home Rule question, or, if it be not, to render it so. Radical programme; and, if it is to still figure there, in what position? The Irish Nationalists of all sections threaten instant secession and war to the knife unless it is kept in front; the British Nonconformists menace revolt unless the Home Rule is not; the moderate Radicals are in a quandary, and the Conservatives are in a very bad way. As for the new Radicals under Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Labouchere, they can think of no better solution than Home Rule all round, a specific which satisfies no one except their own scanty following.

A popular provincial clergyman lately impressed upon the feminine members of his adoring flock the extreme desirability of wearing limited head-gear at church, in order that those seated behind them might see and hear. This counsel received due attention, but in a way which did not exactly please the worthy cleric. On the following Sunday a huge hair was seen to be unhappily, so were their indignant owners.

Queries are constantly addressed to us respecting the most efficacious means of ridding the house of multitudinous mice. Having had a good deal of painful experience of that nuisance, I have come to the conclusion that the only radical cure is keeping a cat on the premises. If not too badly fed, and properly guarded, a cat will soon effect a clearance. Traps are nearly worthless, as the mice quickly learn to avoid them; while poisoned food, although efficacious, results in atmospheric pollution, consequent upon the decomposition of the slain in inaccessible places.

A learned Asiatic astrologer calculates that Queen Victoria has still at least 36 years to live; prolonged consumption, he states, will be the cause of that extent. But he cannot yet make certain that her life will not be prolonged beyond 1932; he considers it quite possible. So mote it be! Her Majesty's subjects would be only too delighted were she to live to the age of Methuselah and a good bit over.

Railway officials in India make acquaintance with some strange dogs. I have just seen a picture of one in which a couple of natives are prosecuted for not administering to the necessities of 300 live monkeys in transit by rail to Calcutta. Fancy that number of lively apes in a high state of indignation at not being adequately supplied with food! The picture shows a regulated guard or porter on an English line would have flown for his life at such a blood-curdling spectacle; there is no more fearful wild fowl than a monkey in a passion.

A certain fond father, who had been much worried by his daughters to supply them with cycles, was much puzzled to account for the sudden cessation of these solicitations. After some pressing, one of the pretty damsels confided to him that, as cycling will be pretty certain to go out of fashion before long, she and her sisters preferred to save his purse for the purchase next year of "a nice little autocar" for each of them. The poor man groaned.

Most London toilers feel urgent need, from time to time, for a brief spell, if only one day, of invigorating and stimulating air. I know of nothing better for the purpose than a trip to Margate, Ramsgate, Clacton, or Bournemouth, and back in one of the new Palace steamers. Except, perhaps, on bank holidays, there is always plenty of elbow room; refreshments can be obtained on board at reasonable prices; even when the sea is a bit rough, the motion does not amount to much; in fine, all the accompaniments are thoroughly pleasant. As a rule, too, rigid punctuality is observed in starting and returning; while no praise could be too high for the courtesy and attentiveness of the company's employees.

The Suez Canal continues to justify the expectancy of Lord Beaconsfield in buying the Khedive's shares. Every year with some £1,000,000 the commercial value of this splendid

investment; had the great Conservative statesman effected the purchase on his own account, as he could have easily done, I believe, had he been so minded, his heir, Mr. Coningsby Dorell, would now be one of the greatest millionaires in the world. It is said that the house of Rothschild offered to advance the £4,000,000 required to Lord Beaconsfield, on hypothecation of the shares, but he patriotically replied that he preferred to let the British people have the benefit of the bargain.

The old age pension movement would be greatly furthered were the Government to disarm the hostility of the great friendly societies by making such concessions as would safeguard their interests. That they have done, and are doing, most excellent work as promoters of thrift does not admit of the slightest controversy; through their instrumentality workmen are enabled to make provision against illness and other evils. It would not, therefore, need a very long stride for these admirable organisations to include provision for old age in their scheme of relief, and, as their doing so could not fail to save much of the cost of administering the poor law system, the State might fairly be called upon to contribute to the pension fund, subject to thoroughly efficient and independent audit.

There called at my house the other day when I was but a respectable-looking middle-aged man, who stated that he had been directed to take back a great coat of mine to his employer, a local tailor, for repairs. As I had not mentioned the matter, and as it seemed somewhat unlikely that I should think of such a thing at the time, I was a little surprised. The man said to call again in the evening, when master would be at home. Almost needless to say, the gentleman did not keep that appointment. But he victimised a neighbour by the same artful tale, and no doubt the fellow made a comfortable living by frequently changing from one locality to another.

MADAME.

It is by no means an easy matter nowadays to meet with a moderately quick looking, and at the same time pretty and becoming, bonnet. Fashion seems for the moment to have gone mad in the matter of head gear; an easily changed, and a very different, servant told him to call again in the evening, when master would be at home. Almost needless to say, the gentleman did not keep that appointment. But he victimised a neighbour by the same artful tale, and no doubt the fellow made a comfortable living by frequently changing from one locality to another.

Let me describe one I came across at a fashionable milliner's; it may supply a hint that might be carried out at home for less than half the cost of the shop bonnet. It is a quiet, round, shoe, with just a thought of the old-fashioned poke about it. The trimming consists of clusters of pink and crimson roses with wing buds of black and cream lace outlined with glittering sequins, a full black ostrich standing upright, and a little black tulle. The sides of black tulle are tied in front in a soft full bow with short ends; the tulle strings can be replaced at any time by satin ribbon.

Crepon, although somewhat out of favour just now for ordinary costumes, is still much used for tea gowns. There is a fine soft silky make of crepon specially suited for this dainty garment. Nun's veiling, fine cashmere, and other soft woollens also adapt themselves to the requirements of the tea gown. It needs a material that will allow of soft falling folds; all fabrics of a hard nature should be avoided for this purpose.

I met with a lovely tea gown the other day, quite an ideal afternoon costume for a young matron. The material, a very fine soft crepon—not the ordinary crinkled crepon with which we are so familiar, but a lovely variety with a silky ripple over the surface, the colour an exquisite shade of pale heliotrope with a slight pink tinge. The trimming consists of folds of heliotrope silk in a rather deeper shade and fine creamy lace.

The make of the gown is decidedly out of the common, with a touch of simplicity, and, at the same time, graceful elegance. The back is cut somewhat in princess form, with one deep box pleat in the centre of the back; the pleat widens out gradually at the foot, giving a very graceful sit to the gown, which rests on the ground with a slight train. The lining throughout is of soft muslin.

The front of the gown is arranged in close full gathers as far as the bust, from this point it hangs gracefully in straight folds to the ground. Soft folds of heliotrope silk are placed over each shoulder from a little below the gathers in front to exactly the same length. At the back a deep frill of creamy lace is gathered under the outer edge of the silk folds, forming a most becoming trimming back and front. The sleeves are in one round puff to a little below the elbow, where they are finished with folds of silk and a frill of cream lace. The general effect of the gown is very good.

Ribbons are very much to the front this season. They are largely used in the adornment of fashionable gowns, capes, and cloaks, as well as in hats and bonnets. Very lovely they are, too, in their almost endless varieties. A foremost place is taken by chine ribbons, with misty floral designs in various tones, and with the background of pale blue, green, or pink. Then we have rich-hued satin ribbons, and delicate soft silk, as well as baby ribbons, in every colour of the rainbow. The success of a costume is often assured by the deft arrangement of a few yards of ribbon. Some dainty blouses appear with the basque entirely composed of loops of ribbon placed closely together. A black chiffon blouse, with a basque of deep yellow ribbon loops, is lovely.

A fashionable style of tailor-made costume in coat and skirt style is of fine smooth-surfaced summer cloth in the new shade of blue. It is a wide with a plain round shaped skirt, cut strictly to a waist length, all the loose kept at the back. The cloth is lined throughout with a special make of linen. This lining gives just the right consistency to the cloth and enables it to hang gracefully without adding materially to its weight.

The coat to go with this skirt is

decidedly smart looking. It is cut in the new style, with a short, square, quite straight in front and plain at the sides, with a pretty arrangement at the back of full-fluted folds. The revers and turn-down collar are cut in one. They are faced with white cloth, profusely embroidered with narrow silver cord. The skirt panel and neck band are also of the white cloth, embroidered in silver. The sleeves are cut with moderately full tops to a little above the elbows, from which point the sleeves fit snugly to the arms, the wrists being finished with turn-back cuffs faced with the white embroidered cloth.

MR. WHEELER.

Riders in the South generally, and more especially in the vicinity of the metropolis, do not, perhaps, appreciate the particular blessings that are theirs. But let them tour afield, and they quickly begin to do so. It is impressed upon them that there is a decidedly enviable lot, regarded from a purely cycling standpoint. A week's wheeling in the West Riding of Yorkshire, for instance, constitutes a wealth of instruction, and tends to open one's eyes considerably. The roads that are called good merit the criticism delivered by Mark Twain on a certain "road that was called straight." There are, however, a few little in the bestowal of the designation, and the best of them would be regarded with disgust by the pampered Londoner as being very much in need of the attentions of his authorities. And the hills are frequent and distressing. As a given instance, observe only the few miles ago. The man as rides much of Yorkshire deserves credit for a good deal of perseverance.

The majority of foreign authors who have given us their impressions of England and England's children have dwelt more or less heavily upon the happy-go-lucky temperament of John Bull, and the fact that "sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof" is a maxim generally observed by him, often to his undoing. Mr. D'Orell professes to have been very much struck by the fact. To direct attention to one's faults, however, is not to remedy them, or the average cyclist would scarcely ride so frequently and so far without a repair outfit, for one does not easily carry one, and might be wanted a thousand times in a thousand unpleasant situations. Yet it is rather the rule than the exception to find your cyclist unprovided with such a thing, and serenely happy notwithstanding.

In a great many places, and especially in the neighbourhood of our large towns and cities, the roads are often more crowded at the Whit Sunday season than at any other time of the year. There are some riders, it is true, to whom cycling in a crowd represents the acme of pleasure, but the average tourist entertains the contrary opinion, and sighs for the green of the country, and the company of a few friends, and the quietude of the general view of whose tastes is assured. Such an one is well advised to steer clear at this time of the year of those well-known resorts, watering places or otherwise, that, not at any time very secluded, are just now sure to be open to repetition with holiday-makers.

The gentleman still exists, though it might almost seem impossible in these days of universal cycling. He regards the rider of a bicycle as a very dangerous person, who ought to be, though he unfortunately is not, kept under proper and severe restraint. On the whole this gentleman is not so maliciously disposed as might be supposed at first sight. But his restriction has, without doubt, been most sadly neglected. He thinks that every wheelman should ride with a large number of conspicuous upon his back, this being a somewhat ancient idea, it is true, but one to which he nevertheless religiously clings. He has excellent prescriptions to him, which will most assuredly prove efficacious, and for which it is intended to make no charge whatever. Do but let him procure a bicycle, a good bicycle, and master the art of propelling it, and his complaint will become a thing of the past. The remedy in the long run will not prove an expensive one, and, unlike the majority of medicines, is exceedingly palatable.

"The Cycle" gives some interesting particulars of cycling in Denmark, where, as is well known, the world's championships are this year to be held. The country has been called, not inaptly, the "cyclists' paradise," owing to its combined charms of perfect roads, climate, and scenery. There can be no absurd police restrictions, as in some parts of the Continent, and riding is generally indulged in by the inhabitants. The rule of the road, it is as well to know, is the reverse of the one in force here, for riders are expected to keep not to the left but to the right.

Some one is booming a contrivance which is to "revolutionise the trade," and "supercede the pneumatic tyre." I am tired of these chasteities; I hear of them every day, and they are all the same, and an anti-vibrative handle bar. Well, it's certain to be decidedly slow; the solid tyres make it so. Put a heavy man on a pneumatic, and wheel him over a boy's marble on a hard floor. The marble will practically disappear, and the boy will be injured. This absorption rather than surmounting of the obstacle is the secret of the pace of the air tyre, and pace is simply convertible into ease of running. On the other hand, this advantage of absorption is entirely wanting in any solid-tired vehicle, as the obstacle has to be surmounted, and though, by the interposition of springs, air balls, cushions, or pneumatic hubs, the shock may be minimised as regards the rider, yet the loss of momentum as regards the machine itself is the same as if no such contrivances existed. In short, unless the air cushion is in contact with the road all the advantages of the air tyre are completely lost, and a solid-tired Whippet bicycle, the best of the spring frames, should have been as fast as the air shod safety if the theories of the latest inventor were correct—which they are not.

The library of the late zoologist, Karl Vogt, of Geneva, has been bought by the Senckenberg Museum, in Frankfurt, for 35,000 marks.

Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder. Borwick's Baking Powder.

A LADY OF ENGLAND.

With modest step she went her ways In early childhood and in youth, And ever with an earnest gaze She sought and found the path of truth. For when she knew that she must bear A mighty country's high renown, By meditation and by prayer She shaped her love was early won. She stepped her brow to wear the crown, And ne'er in stately Kensington Was seen a lowlier maid than she, Whose people's love was early won. By youth and modest dignity. No child beneath its budding brows Was happier in its thoughtless play Than she across whose tender brows The shadow of an empire lay. Then changed the scene, and pomp and

The gentle maiden's steps attend; Her word resounds on every side, Her glory ne'er shall have an end. A pallion will bend to her own, 'Tis ne'er by worthless flattery swayed; The monarch's power she used alone, Whose people's love was early won. By youth and modest dignity. No child beneath its budding brows Was happier in its thoughtless play Than she across whose tender brows The shadow of an empire lay. Then changed the scene, and pomp and

STRONG CASE FOR FARMERS.

This extract from a letter from an agricultural writer of very long experience, recently been travelling about the country, will be read with interest:—"In my journeyings I found very little to cheer me. Wheat will no doubt be the crop of the year, but it has been living there—19 years—and as he lies up 80 or 90 bushels he was dismayed at the prospect of the water supply. A week before, in Romney Marsh, another large farmer complained to me of the scarcity of grass and water. He said that the water in his ponds was yet awake to the state of ruin that has befallen agriculture. Unless some change be made in the direction of protection it does not need the foresight of a prophet to say that the foreigner will ultimately supplant the British producer. So I shall give up."

Mrs. Stenning, Hatcham, broke her neck through the staircase banisters giving way and precipitating her into the passage below. There are few pleasures more enjoyable than that of coaching, especially to the Londoner. Realising this, an excellent horse coach has been started by Messrs. Spiers and Pond, which runs between Piccadilly and Surbiton, proceeding via Richmond and Hampton Court, and returning via Worcester Park, Roehampton, &c. A start is made every week day at 11.30, and London is again reached at 6.30. This coach affords one of the most charming drives near London, and will doubtless be extensively patronised.

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road, 59.
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brook, 72; Carlton, 69.

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is the "SPECIALITE" of EXCELLENCE in

each a great degree compared with other

costumes. It is made of the finest

materials and is so constructed that it

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IN THE DIVORCE COURT.

SQUEAL TO A BEACH OF PROMISE.

MASTERS V. MASTERS.—Petition of wife

for judicial separation by reason of the

adultery of her husband, Mr. Harcourt

Masters.—The parties were married in June,

1872, at Gower, Essex, and there were 3

children. They lived together until Jan

25 last. On that day petitioner noticed

that a daily newspaper which used to be

taken in was torn. She asked her husband

about the missing portion, and he said

he must have dropped it. When he left

she sent for another copy of the news-

paper, and found an account of a breach

of promise case "Lutina v. Masters." It

was a suit brought by Charlotte Lutina,

known in the theatre world as Adeline

Lutina, against respondent for breach of

promise and seduction, she obtaining a

verdict against him with £400 damages.

When Mr. Masters returned home he

told her of the verdict, and she was

given in support of this statement by

petitioner, Dr. Prescott gave evidence

as to attending Miss "Lutina" at some

rooms in Bow-st. He added that respondent

used to come in and out and had been

seen by him on several occasions. The

witness attended the breach of promise trial

in which there was a verdict for £400

damages. Judicial separation granted,

with costs and custody of children.

PROFESSOR GLANTZ AND MRS. MASTERS.—

Petition of husband, Mr. M. Masters, son of

W. H. Masters, ground, wife's adultery with

M. H. Masters, also to be proved.

The marriage took place at the Registry

Office, Paddington, in 1894. They lived

together at various places in London, and

afterwards at Margate. At the latter place

she said it was dull, and she wanted to

return to Bow-st. He responded, but for

part of 1895. While at Bow-st. she ap-

peared to have made the acquaintance of

a correspondent, who seemed to have been

a professional gnat, and travelled with a

manager, and she lived with him at 2

different addresses. Petitioner had cer-

tain information given to him, and the

result was that he caused inquiries to be

made, and this petition was presented.

Petitioner was called, and bore out the

opening statement of counsel. He added

that his brother made his wife an allow-

ance, but when he received information

about her the allowance ceased. — Pro-

fessor Glantz and Mrs. Masters.—Peti-

tion of Isaac Masters, a chemist, peti-

tion, ground, wife's adultery with a

man named Stein or Stone.—Masters

said he was married in 1875, and in 1892

he and his wife made the acquaintance of

Stein, who was a baker, then about 15

years of age, and he became acquainted

with him, and he lived with him at 2

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THE STRAND TRAGEDY.

INQUEST AND VERDICT.

THE CORONER AND THE JURY.

ALLISON AT BOW-STREET.

The inquest on Alice Allison, 23, wife

of a licensed victualler's manager, was

resumed by Mr. Croft, the coroner, at

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At Birmingham, Warwickshire gained a victory of six wickets over Kent. On Monday, Warwickshire had the best of matters, dismissing their opponents for 185, and then scoring 207 for the loss of only eight wickets. Thanks to some fine cricket by H. W. Bainbridge (69), Law (46) and Lilly (54), the total reached 325 ere the last wicket fell.

Kent went in a second time with 146 to get to avoid an innings defeat. Thanks to some steady batting the saved this catastrophe, but only 146 had been scored when Jones of six wickets when Tuesday's play commenced.

On resuming on Wednesday, the game was quickly brought to an end. Kent's total ran

directly with the church: Theological schools, \$238,653; church buildings and restoration, \$33,175,000; home missions, \$7,428,478; foreign missions, \$10,100,000; elementary education, \$21,382,041; charitable institutions, \$2,818,200; charities for poor clergy, \$2,103,364.

OFF BOX OF CLARE'S B 61 PILLS is warranted to cure all Diseases of the Urinary Organs in either men or women. It is a Constitutional Remedy and is sold in the Bottle. Guaranteed free from mercury, sold in boxes of 6, each, with all Chemists, or sent for 50 stamps by the makers, THE LIGGALL AND KIDDERLEY CO., Ltd., 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

REMARKABLE LETTER FROM MILLSON.
Albert Millson has sent the following remarkable letter to his mother, who resides in North Kensington. The letter is as follows:—

I hope you won't take this dreadful calumny to heart, oh, and think of what is in front of you. I am bearing up under the circumstances very well, as I have no guilty conscience to prick me. I have sinned against God and man, and to a greater extreme, but thank God, I have not to answer for any one's life. I am innocent of the blood of

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| Aston's | Embrocation. | Huevaria, A. |
| Aston's | Embrocation. | Lumina, B. |
| Aston's | Embrocation. | Lumina, C. |
| Aston's Sovereign | Embrocation. | In 1st. post |
| Aston's | Embrocation. | In 2d. Aston C. |
| Aston's | Embrocation. | Birn |
| Aston's | Embrocation. | Birn |

rests with the Prefect of Police, M. Vlassovsky, inasmuch as he did not comply with the requests made of him to send a strong force of gendarmes to maintain order on the ground. Not only did the organising committee of the fête make this demand, but the military authorities when they saw the hundreds of thousands of people pouring out of Moscow on the eve of the fête, offered to lend troops to co-operate with the police.

M. Vlassovsky, it is alleged, was

THE SECRET OF BEAUTY is found in **COTTON SOAP**, the most effective skin purifier and beautifier in the world, as well as the purest sweetest for toilet, bath, and surgery. It is the only skin red, rough hands, with chapped, cracked, and falling hair, and simple baby blemishes. It cures the persistent preservative of inflammation and cures the pores of the face, and the eruptions of the skin, scalp, and hair. Sale greater than the total sales of all other skin and complexion soaps. (Ad.)

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCEMENT See Life Guide Catalogue (See pgs.) 34. New York City, N.Y. store. **TOBACCONISTS' OUTFITTING CO.** 116 E. 14th St. N.Y.C. Largest and original house in the U.S. for the trade.

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BRIGHTON.

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A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of fabric. The left side is heavily overexposed, appearing as a bright white area. The right side shows a dark, heavily textured surface with vertical ridges and grooves, suggesting a rough or weathered material. The overall composition is vertical and abstract.

CRICKET.

Bedford Grammar School, 286; Kensal
Park, 218. Ordnance Survey, 120; Queens
Park, 64 and 65. Litchester, 79; Queens'

At Lowe, Lewes, 151 (for 1); Eastbourne College, 152.

too heavily weighted, the winner leading by 3 yards at the finish. Time, 1:50. **Half-mile Bicycle Handicap.**—F. Drake, 70 the annu

A.R.A.—The draw took place for the regatta of the 13th inst., and came

Four miles north of
P. Legg, London, S. E.

M. Packer, Trinity June 2, 1896.

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